

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner had rejected claims 23 and 26 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

In response, in claim 23, the language of the claim has been revised to refer to the supplying path, for which there is an antecedent in claim 17. Additionally, for the avoidance of any misunderstanding and without adding any new subject matter, paragraph 50 of the specification is being amended to indicate that the reference 500 denotes a circulation loop or supplying path, i.e. the term "supplying path" is an alternative label for the circulation loop.

With respect to claim 26, the Examiner had objected to this claim, because no ranges were given for the subscripts x and y . It is submitted that it is not necessary for any ranges to be given. A person skilled in the art would well understand what are acceptable ranges for these subscripts, and the intention is simply to indicate that the chemical hydride can have any practical variation in the ratios of the two components B and H.

The Examiner had indicated that the claims are otherwise allowable, with claim 27 only being objected to. It is submitted that in view of the amendment to claim 23 and the argument above concerning claim 26, all the claims are now in order for allowance.

The Examiner had also objected to the disclosure, on the grounds that the reference 200 had been used twice, to denote different items in Figures 1 and 7. In fact, reference 200 had, inadvertently, also been used in Figure 4 to denote one of the curves.

In response, the reference 200 has been deleted from Figure 1, since the relevant component is not part of the present invention. This reference is accidentally carried

over from a similar drawing used in another application. In Figure 4, the reference 200 is being changed to 201, and paragraph 44 is being correspondingly amended to refer to the new reference 201. Simultaneously, at line 5 of paragraph 44, a typographical error is being corrected as indicated.

Amended copies of Figures 1 and 4 are enclosed.

The Examiner had argued that the specification makes no reference to Figure 5. Line 4 of paragraph 45, makes reference to Figure 5, so it is submitted that no amendment is necessary in this respect.

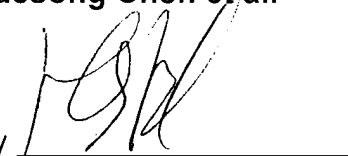
The prior art made of record by the Examiner has been noted.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

Appl. No. 09/986,637
Amdt. Dated November 17, 2003
Reply to Office action of September 29, 2003

Replacement Sheets

Figures 1 and 4 attached